

**Self-Determination and Leadership Work Group**

**October 17, 2013**

**9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Location: Holiday Inn-Yakima

**Members Present:** Chair, Jason Self, Helen Black, Erin Gollehon, John Lemus, Maria Lerma, Aaron Morrow, Adrian Patayon, Teresa Payne, Joy Pendergrass, Jessica Renner, and Sue Searles

Staff: Ed Holen, Linda West, and Brian Dahl

Supports: Kathy Easton

**Draft Minutes**

**Call to Order / Introductions**

Jason opened the meeting and called for introductions.

**Approval of Minutes: July 18, 2013**

The Minutes from July were briefly reviewed. No changes or amendments were needed.

**MOTION:** John Lemus made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Aaron Morrow seconded.

**PASSED:** The motion passed on a voice vote.

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

The agenda was adjusted to include Aaron Morrow to speak on the Higher Education Task Force on which he is representing the Council.

**MOTION:** John Lemus made a motion for the agenda to be approved as amended. Adrian Patayon seconded.

**PASSED:** The motion carried on a voice vote.

**Update: Allies In Advocacy-John Lemus**

The Allies are people from Self-Advocates of Washington (SAW), People First of Washington (PFOW) and Self-Advocates In Leadership (SAIL) who came together to create a statement on the civil rights of all people. They have worked over 18 months. It covers everything from transportation as a form of oppression to our rights with doctors. It will hopefully be used to influence policy at the state, federal, and international levels.

**NPS Grant: Self-Advocacy Technical Assistance**

**Pacific Alliance on Disability Self-Advocacy-John Lemus**

The Project of National Significance Grant was awarded to Autistic Self-advocacy Network who is partnering with PFOW. This grant will provide technical assistance to strengthen the self-f-advocacy movement in several states including Washington.

**Update: Self-Advocates In Leadership (SAIL)-Jessica Renner**

SAIL is currently working on their legislative agenda. Issues that carry on from year to year like closing the RHC's and funding essential services make up a large part of the agenda. They are also taking on some meatier issues, like legislation that will outlaw people with disabilities being paid sub-minimum wage and increased day services.

Over the last couple of years SAIL has included federal and international issues like the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the re-authorization of the DD Act.

Because of its commitment to legislative advocacy, SAIL will be assisting communities in Kitsap and Snohomish counties to organize and hold coffees for their local legislators, as well as, invite more legislators to speak to the group.

### **Higher Education Task Force-Aaron Morrow**

Aaron Morrow is the council's representative on this task force. The common goal of everyone involved is to open up college educations to everyone. They are in an information gathering phase right now and plan to have their first report to the Governor finished in December.

### **Updates-Ed Holen**

Ed gave updates on the local leadership Project, Communities of Practice Grant, the No Paid Services Caseload, and the HCBS Waiver Quality Assurance Committee.

#### **Communities of Practice Grant**

The Communities of Practice Grant is looking at and making recommendations to improve the services for families with members with disabilities over the course of their lives. Deficit thinking of the past has led many people with I/DD to get hooked up with services early in their lives that create a cycle of dependence and limit their lives. Washington is one of four states and the District of Columbia to look at alternatives to how people get the supports and services they need to lead productive and full lives. A kick-off event is scheduled for November 5, 2013.

#### **HCBS Waiver Quality Assurance Committee**

The Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Quality Assurance Committee is looking at improving the services for people with I/DD in our state. The last meeting concerned the

issues around the abuse and neglect response system as detailed in the DRW report “Too Little, Too Late”, specifically as it pertains to residential agencies.

### **No Paid Services Caseload-Part 2**

The No Paid Services Caseload project is going to continue its work educating the public and legislators and hopefully work on some new legislation in the upcoming session. The efforts from last year proved very successful. Legislators seemed to know and understand the issue. The final budget included enough money to serve about 1500 people. There are still about 15,000 waiting for services. A group has been formed to look at what the next steps are in the “No Paid Services Caseload” effort, including more money from the legislature to address the need. They will meet in February 2014.

### **Local Leadership**

The Local Leadership Program with participants from Columbia, Snohomish, and Clark counties is continuing. The annual Legislative weekend will happen for the people participating in these areas from December 20-22, 2013.

There have been talks with people from the Wenatchee area about bringing local leadership to Chelan/Douglas. The lack of infrastructure and clear articulation of what they wish to accomplish indicates that this may not be the right time.

### **Task Force on Alternative Decision-making-David Maltman**

David came in and led a great discussion about the Taskforce on Alternative Decision Making. This is a group of people who are interested in strengthening options for people who are supporting people with disabilities without having to go into full guardianships.

## **Big Picture Work Plan**

The last part of the meeting was spent going over the big picture work plan. The group scheduled dates to get reports from SAIL and other projects. They will also be looking more closely at the use of social media and other technologies and learn about advocacy efforts going on in Island Snohomish and Skagit Counties.

## **Possible Agenda Items for January 2014**

- Higher Education Task Force Update
- Alumni Update
- Report on the Governor's Employment Initiative
- Self-Advocacy in Island and Snohomish Counties

***For more information on any of the topics discussed please contact Brian Dahl at [brian.dahl@ddc.wa.gov](mailto:brian.dahl@ddc.wa.gov) or 360-586-3554.***